



Snohomish County Council

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Release: March 8, 2004

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### **Council Supports Safety Designation for US 2**

The Snohomish County Council has unanimously endorsed an effort to name Highway 2 between Monroe and Stevens Pass as a Highway Traffic Safety Corridor. In addition, the Council pledged its support to the effort by cities along Highway 2 to get federal funding for safety improvements.

The Highway 2 Safety Coalition will be able to use the County's support as it seeks federal funding for money to identify "hot spots" on the corridor. The coalition is planning to seek about \$3 million from the federal government for the studies. The coalition is made up of the cities of Snohomish, Monroe, Sultan, Goldbar, Index, and Skykomish.

Residents in the area have long sought safety improvements to the highway. It has been the site of numerous accidents including 34 fatalities in the past ten years.

"I'm strongly supportive of the effort by these cities to find ways to make this highway safer," said Council member Jeff Sax who represents the area. He continued, "The County's support will help show the federal government that these are critical improvements that need to be made."

The council's resolution notes the rapid growth in the area leading to increased traffic volumes and wear and tear on the highway. The cities along the corridor and the state are looking at a number of ways to make the highway safer, including widening it and providing bypasses to some of the cities along the route.

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